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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT,
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2004

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
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HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

High Military Council Meetings Conclude - Hurriyet
Turkey Launches A New Attack for EU Entry -Hurriyet
British Intelligence Reveals Al-Qaida Plans to Attack
Heathrow Airport - Milliyet
Greece Accuses Turkey of Airspace Violations - Milliyet
PKK Builds a Monument for Its Militant - Sabah
Released Turkish Drivers Returned from Iraq - Turkiye
Turkey Continues Trade with Iraq - Turkiye

OPINION MAKERS

General Buyukanit is the New Land Forces Commander - Radikal
Released Turkish Drivers Urge All the Drivers Not to Go to
Iraq - Radikal
New Threats against Drivers Cooperating with the Coalition
Forces in Iraq- Cumhuriyet
PM Objects to the Expulsion of Fundamentalist Officers -
Cumhuriyet
Turkish Government in Search of Security Measures for
Turkish Drivers in Iraq - Cumhuriyet
Oil Prices Threatens the Global Economy - Zaman
DYP Chairman Agar Urges Turkish Military to Protect Turkish
Drivers in Iraq - Zaman
Strong Support from Belgium for Turkey's EU Membership -
Zaman
No Surprises at the High Military Council Decisions - Yeni
Safak

BRIEFING

High Military Council Decisions: Today's papers give
details about the High Military Council Decisions.
"Hurriyet" reports that Brig.Gen. Mehmet Kaya Varol, who had
gathered intelligence about separatist and subversive
persons and institutions giving support to the EU and the
US, has been retired. The General had asked local officials
to gather information about artists, high society groups,
satanists, Masons, minorities, and Internet groups. All
papers report that General Buyukanit, who was appointed Land
Forces commander, will become the new Chief of General Staff
in 2006, after the retirement of General Ozkok.
"Cumhuriyet" notes that Gen. Sadik Ercan, who was head of
the Special Forces during the detention scandal of Turkish
officers in Northern Iraq last year, also will be retired.
"Cumhuriyet" reports that 12 officers have been expelled
from the military for being involved in fundamentalist
activities, and PM Erdogan and Defense Minister Gonul
registered their objections to this decision.

Turkey's Lobbying for the EU: "Hurriyet" reports that
Turkey will launch a big attack in the autumn in support of
its EU accession bid. In October 4-5, foreign ministers of
25 EU countries and 57 OIC countries will meet in Istanbul.
This meeting is very important because it will be held right
before the release of the EU Commission's enlargement report
on October 6. On October 18-20, the Greens in the European
Parliament will hold a general assembly meeting in Istanbul.
"Hurriyet" notes that the autumn attack will concentrate on
countries like France and Austria that have reservations
about Turkey's EU accession. Universities, the business
world, NGOs and politicians will support this attack. On
October 20, PM Erdogan will go to France to deliver a speech
at the French Institute for International Relations and urge
the French public to support Turkey's EU entry.

Greek Allegations of Airspace Violations: "Milliyet"
reports that the Greek General Staff released a statement
saying that on Wednesday Turkish warplanes penetrated Greek

air space. Greek anti-aircraft missile systems locked on the Turkish planes and four Greek jets forced the Turkish jets to leave Greek airspace. Athens added that yesterday 12 Turkish F-16 jets had violated Greek airspace seven times.

Turkish Drivers in Iraq: "Cumhuriyet" reports that 33 Turks died in Iraq in the first seven months of 2004. Eleven of them were shot down, and the other 22 died in traffic accidents, work accidents or as a result of health problems. "Cumhuriyet" and "Vatan" report that Osman Alisan, the Turkish driver killed in Iraq, reportedly died because he was not able to recite verses from Koran. Two released Turkish drivers urged the rest of the drivers not to go to Iraq.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Sudan; US Elections

"The Reality About Sudan"

Sami Kohen wrote in the mass appeal Milliyet (8/6): "The Sudan case brings some facts to light. It seems the conflicts related to race and religious differences are hard to control in Africa or anywhere else where the tribal state system remains. In such countries the powerful side does whatever it wants and the oppressed side remains helpless. The outside world is also helpless because it fails to cope with this kind of situation. The UN only has power to issue a resolution, as we saw in the Sudan case, yet no strength to have it implemented. The issue of intervention, i.e., sending international troops to the conflict-ridden area remains controversial. In the Sudan case, the international organizations which are supposed to pay attention (such as the African Union or the Organization of Islamic Conference) are just watching. ... The debates in the United Nations about helping Sudan give no hope. Members of the UN act on their interests first rather than focusing on human despair. Russia sells arms to Sudan. China has trade relations with Sudan. The US, UK and France emphasize the strategic location of Sudan as well as oil resources. The whole "my-interests-first" scenario in the UN overshadows humanitarian aid, which unfortunately constitutes the reality about Sudan."

"The Difference of Kerry"

Erdal Guven opined in the liberal-intellectual Radikal (8/6): "Whoever becomes the new president of the United States will have to cope with anti-Americanism on a global scale. In this matter, Kerry seems to have more chance for success than Bush. It remains to be seen to what extent he will be successful, although no breakthrough should ever be expected from him. In fact, turning such a 'chance' into a 'reality' is tied to the US policy for Iraq. We all know Kerry already expressed support for the US commitments in Iraq. Yet he also added that he would do his best to include all allies of the US in this commitment. At this point we don't know how he plans to achieve that. ... From Iraq to Kyoto, American policy is shaped by the consideration of national interests. Unless US national interests are redefined under a new strategy concept, the difference of Kerry as opposed to Bush will remain only on the tactical basis."

DEUTSCH